

What is claimed is:

1. A method involving a data record including therapeutic advice items, wherein a first database includes a number of data records for therapeutic advice items, the method comprising:

    assigning each data record, associated with a therapeutic advice item, a unique order feature, wherein the order feature is assigned a version identifier.

2. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the order feature is at least one of assigned a release attribute indicating the release of the therapeutic advice item and assigned an activation attribute indicating the usability of the therapeutic advice item.

3. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the order feature is assigned a use attribute indicating the current use of the therapeutic advice item.

4. The method as claimed in claim 3, wherein at least one of the use attribute and the activation attribute includes a date.

5. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein an underlying therapeutic advice item is identified in the second database at the start of a medical therapy and said therapeutic advice item's associated order feature and the date on which the therapy started are stored.

6. A method involving a data record including at least one therapeutic advice item, wherein a first database includes a plurality of data records, the method comprising:

assigning each data record, associated with a therapeutic advice item, a unique order feature; and

storing, in a second database including a plurality of data records for therapeutic information items relating to an individual therapy, for each data record associated with a therapeutic information item, if appropriate, the order feature of the therapeutic advice item on which the therapy is based.

7. The method as claimed in claim 6, wherein at least one of a change and update for a therapeutic advice item prompts the at least one of changed and updated therapeutic advice item to be stored, as a new therapeutic advice item in the form of a data record, in the first database together with a unique order feature, wherein the second database is searched for therapeutic information items having the order feature of the corresponding old therapeutic advice item on which the new therapeutic advice item is based, and wherein a report is generated for each obsolete order feature found in the second database.

8. The method as claimed in claim 6, wherein an appropriate report is generated for each therapeutic advice item newly stored in the first database.

9. The method as claimed in claim 6, wherein at least one of the first database and a further third database, at least one of assigns each therapeutic advice item and activates at least one of an activation attribute, indicating the usability of this therapeutic advice item, and a release attribute indicating the release of this therapeutic advice item.

10. The method as claimed in claim 6, wherein at least one of the first database and a further third database, at least one of assigns each therapeutic advice item and activates a use attribute, indicating the use of this therapeutic advice item.

11. The method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the at least one of the use attribute, the release attribute and the activation attribute includes a date.

12. The method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the use attribute is set if therapeutic information items based on the obsolete therapeutic advice item, are still identified in the second database.

13. The method as claimed in claim 6, wherein the order feature is assigned a descriptor for the therapeutic advice item and a version number.

14. The method as claimed in claim 6, wherein a knowledge base includes a plurality of stored rules, wherein each rule refers to advice items relating to a transition from an obsolete therapeutic advice item to a new therapeutic advice item, and wherein a selection algorithm is used to select one of the rules on the basis of the obsolete therapeutic advice item and the new therapeutic advice item and also on the basis of therapeutic information items.

15. The method as claimed in claim 14, wherein each therapeutic information item is assigned at least one date which characterizes the first use of the associated therapeutic advice item and where the rule is selected on the basis of the duration of the therapy in line with the obsolete therapeutic advice item.

16. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the therapeutic advice item represents a medical guideline, and wherein the therapeutic information item represents at least one of a patient record and information items relating to at least one of a therapeutic and diagnostic device.

17. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the order feature is assigned a use advice item.

18. A method for referencing a data record including at least one therapeutic advice item, wherein a first database includes a plurality of data records, the method comprising:

assigning each data record, associated with a therapeutic advice item, a unique order feature; and  
assigning the order feature a version identifier.

19. The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the order feature is further assigned a use advice item.

20. The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the order feature is at least one of assigned a release attribute indicating the release of the therapeutic advice item and assigned an activation attribute indicating the usability of the therapeutic advice item.

21. The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the order feature is assigned a use attribute indicating the current use of the therapeutic advice item.

22. The method as claimed in claim 21, wherein at least one of the use attribute and the activation attribute includes a date.

23. The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein an underlying therapeutic advice item is identified in the second database at the start of a medical therapy and said therapeutic advice item's associated order feature and the date on which the therapy started are stored.

24. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the data record is referenced according to the assigned order feature.

25. The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the data record is referenced according to the assigned order feature.

26. The method as claimed in claim 6, wherein the data record is referenced according to the assigned order feature.

27. The method as claimed in claim 7, wherein an appropriate report is generated for each therapeutic advice item newly stored in the first database.

28. The method as claimed in claim 11, wherein the use attribute is set if therapeutic information items based on the obsolete therapeutic advice item, are still identified in the second database.

29. A device involving a data record including at least one therapeutic advice item, wherein a first database includes a plurality of data records, the device comprising:

means for assigning each data record, associated with a therapeutic advice item, a unique order feature; and

means for storing, in a second database including a plurality of data records for therapeutic information items relating to an individual therapy, for each data record associated with a therapeutic information item, if appropriate, the order feature of the therapeutic advice item on which the therapy is based.

30. A device for referencing a data record including at least one therapeutic advice item, wherein a first database includes a plurality of data records, the device comprising:

means for assigning each data record, associated with a therapeutic advice item, a unique order feature; and

means for assigning the order feature a version identifier.

31. A program, adapted to perform the method of claim 1, when executed on a computer.

32. A computer readable medium, storing the program of claim 31.

33. A program, adapted to perform the method of claim 6, when executed on a computer.

34. A computer readable medium, storing the program of claim 33.

35. A program, adapted to perform the method of claim 18, when executed on a computer.

36. A computer readable medium, storing the program of  
claim 35.